

PATENT

DK-US030174

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : **Mail Stop Amendment**
Mamoru ASAOKAWA et al. :
Serial No.: 10/564,153 : Patent Art Unit: 3679
Filed: June 21, 2006 : Examiner: David Bochna
For: PIPE JOINT : **Confirmation No. 6104**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT WITH CERTIFICATION

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants bring the reference listed on the attached PTO-1449-Form to the Examiner's attention and request that it be considered and made of record in this application. A copy of the non-U.S. reference and the Japanese Notice of Allowance citing the reference are attached.

I hereby certify that each item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was cited for the first time in any communication from a foreign patent office in any counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

No fee is believed to be required in view of the above certification. However, Applicants authorize the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to charge payment of the Petition fee Under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) *if required* and any other fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1836.

Japanese Published Utility Model Patent Application No S58-175287 appears to disclose a pipe joint having a joint main body 1, an opening edge part 1a, a tapered side surface 2, a tightening nut 4, a tapered side surface 5, a pipe 6, an insertion part 6a, a sleeve 7,

edge parts 7a and 7b, an annular groove 10, an inner pipe part 11, an edge part 11, and tapered angles θ_1 and θ_2 .

Respectfully submitted,

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